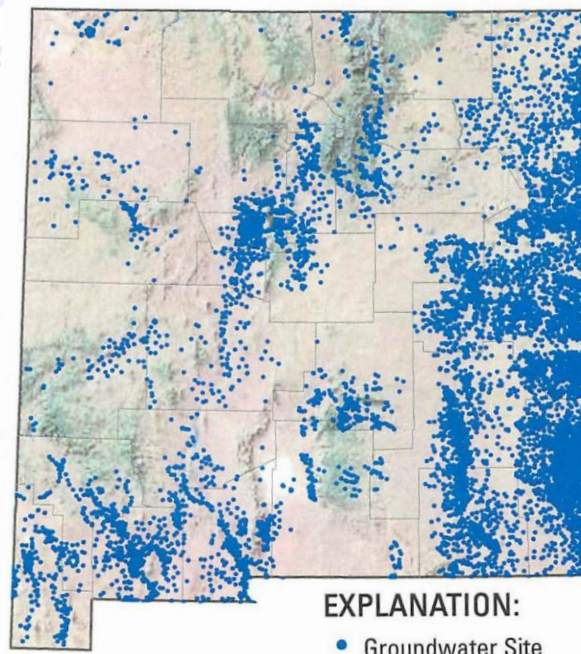


GROUNDWATER SCIENCE

Aquifer characterization
 Groundwater-level field measurements and continuous monitoring
 Monitoring-network design
 Monitoring-well installation
 Core collection and analysis
 Groundwater-quality field measurements and continuous monitoring
 Groundwater age dating
 Groundwater vulnerability studies
 Source-water assessments
 Groundwater/surface-water interaction studies
 Groundwater recharge studies
 Groundwater budget analysis
 Groundwater flow and transport models
 Groundwater availability assessments
 Simulation of groundwater management scenarios
 Aquifer tests
 Application of borehole and surface geophysics
 Aquifer-compaction/land-subsidence studies
 Unsaturated-zone studies

USGS GROUNDWATER-LEVEL MONITORING SITES IN NEW MEXICO, 1991-2011



The NMWSC currently (2012) operates several groundwater-level and (or) groundwater-quality monitoring networks across the State, using strict protocols to ensure high-quality data. Through the NMWSC Web site at <http://nm.water.usgs.gov>, groundwater-level measurements are available for more than 9,000 wells in New Mexico (more than 1,000 of which are actively monitored, and more than 100 of which are equipped with continuous water-level recorders) and groundwater-quality measurements are available for more than 1,100 wells. These publicly available groundwater data facilitate assessment of recent conditions and of changes in conditions through time.

MISSION: To provide reliable, impartial, timely information that is needed to understand the Nation's water resources.

The New Mexico Water Science Center actively promotes the use of this information by decision makers to:

- Minimize the loss of life and property as a result of water-related natural hazards, such as floods, droughts, and land movement.
- Effectively manage groundwater and surface-water resources for domestic, agriculture, commercial, industrial, recreational, and ecological uses.
- Protect and enhance water resources for human health, aquatic health, and environmental quality.
- Contribute to wise physical and economic development of the Nation's resources for the benefit of present and future generations.



The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), New Mexico Water Science Center (NMWSC), works in cooperation with municipalities, counties, tribes, and other local, State, and Federal agencies in New Mexico to provide reliable and impartial groundwater data and interpretation to resource managers, planners, other stakeholders, and the general public. The USGS has a long history of conducting groundwater data collection and groundwater resource assessments in New Mexico, starting as early as the 1905 study by Charles Rollin Keyes of groundwater conditions of the Jornada del Muerto.

The NMWSC conducts investigations of various aspects of groundwater systems, including aquifer properties, groundwater/surface-water interaction, groundwater recharge, groundwater budgets, groundwater vulnerability to contamination, unsaturated-zone processes, and aquifer compaction. Tools and approach of some recent studies include: (1) identification and model simulation of important factors affecting the transport of contaminants to public-supply wells in the Middle Rio Grande Basin; (2) determination of potential groundwater flow paths that could allow metals leached from coal-combustion byproducts stored in reclaimed mine pits to discharge to wells and streams in the San Juan Basin; (3) determination of the effect of groundwater withdrawals on the groundwater system of the upper Hondo River Basin in Lincoln County; (4) documentation of groundwater/surface-water interactions and groundwater salinity changes within the Mesilla Basin; (5) simulation of groundwater flow in the Mesilla Basin; and (6) estimation of the amount of potential groundwater recharge from domestic sewage disposal fields in eastern Bernalillo County.

For additional information on USGS activities and capabilities, or for access to groundwater data, please visit the New Mexico Water Science Center Web site at: <http://nm.water.usgs.gov> or the national Web site at: <http://water.usgs.gov>. If we can assist you with data collection or interpretation to address a specific groundwater related issue or concern that you may have, please contact us directly at one of the phone numbers or email addresses provided below. We look forward to serving you in the near future.



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